

## Your say ...



**Craig Coote  
Dulwich Hill**

"Everyone in the hotel is rapt about it but we're all suspicious: how many things have we been promised over the years?"



**Jacqueline Oag  
Dulwich Hill**

"From a small business perspective it's going to increase residential density, which is probably good for us."



**Jo O'Rourke  
Dulwich Hill**

"I would use it if it had disabled access for prams."



**Amy Fidirikkos  
Ashfield**

"If it went to Haberfield it would be great and we go to the Fish Markets a lot."



**Tomoka Eastwood  
Dulwich Hill**

"Light rail is more relaxing than trains and I like the atmosphere. I get to go to the city quicker and more comfortably."

# Light rail would



**Summer Hill butcher Gus Ferriera is looking forward to a new light rail stop in Summer Hill.**

Picture: DANNY AARONS

## Residents see a better lifestyle

Marie Sansom

INNER WEST residents are ready to welcome light rail with open arms, but for many it throws up questions, chiefly about parking, ticket prices and accessibility, not to mention doubts over whether the project will go ahead.

Kerry Hammond, from Dulwich Hill, and her family rely on public transport because they have no car, and they need it to be accessible.

"I would go to the city more. I can't

use Hurlstone Park station because the pram weighs a ton and you can't get down the stairs," she said.

"The area isn't the most prosperous. There are lots of closed down shops here so it would probably bring more people to the area."

Dulwich Hill cafe owner Con Kazantzidis said it would help Dulwich Hill commuters get into the city, particularly because Dulwich Hill train station was a long walk from the shops.

"This morning there was a queue at the bus stop which I've never seen

quite so bad before in 40 years I've been here," he said. "The bus routes are there; they're just not working."

It could also serve flats being built along New Canterbury Rd and existing apartments near Arlington Oval.

Summer Hill butcher Gus Ferriera said having light rail at Summer Hill would be "the best thing since sliced bread" and should have been done 20 years ago.

"It will give more people the opportunity to visit the suburb. Summer Hill is almost hidden."





# revive faded suburbs

Kate Carr

BUSINESSES on Norton St are looking forward to boom times following the Government's announcement on Sunday that it is going to extend the existing light rail system from Lilyfield to Dulwich Hill.

Premier Kristina Keneally made the announcement as part of the Government's Metropolitan Transport Plan. She also said the Government would build 4.1km of light rail to connect Circular Quay to Haymarket via Barangaroo.

Il Gelatiere Cafe owner France Panebianco said the new system could help revive Norton St.

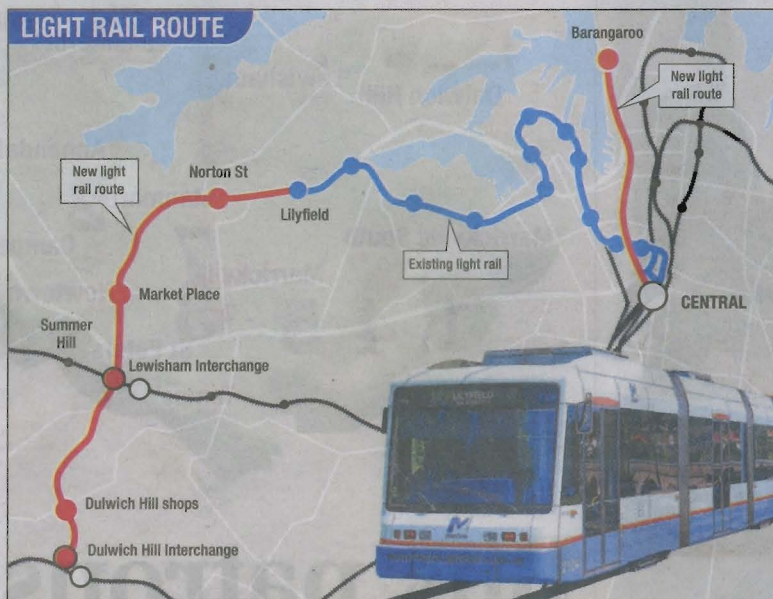
"We find that business has died down," Mr Panebianco said.

"Most definitely light rail will be good for the area."

Leichhardt Chamber of Commerce president Warwick Plumsted said the announcement was a "great win" for the Inner West, and would bring welcome visitors to Sydney's Little Italy.

"I hope that the NSW Government moves quickly to build the infrastructure required for the Dulwich Hill link, as this requires only a modest amount of work as the railway line is already in place," Mr Plumsted said.

Metro Transport chief executive Kevin Warrell told the *Courier* residents could expect as many as eight new stations along the 5.6km



track between Lilyfield and Dulwich Hill, although he emphasised that the exact locations of these were yet to be decided.

He said the major issue now was getting light rail incorporated into the Government's recently announced integrated ticketing scheme.

"The link west could be operated on our current model, but the Barangaroo link really needs to be integrated to work," Mr Warrell said.

"It really means bringing us into the fold."

And it seems the Government has shifted on the issue of bringing light rail into its ticketing network.

Mr Campbell told the *Courier* that under the Government's electronic ticketing scheme it may be possible to apply the full private operator fare through the electronic ticket.



Are you pleased the Government is extending light rail? Let us know online at [innerwestcourier.com.au](http://innerwestcourier.com.au)



Looking forward to light rail... (from left) Amy Fidirikkos, Rita Tomac and daughter Sabrina in Summer Hill.

Picture: DANNY AARONS